(a) whether Government propose to set up six AIIMS like institutions in the country;

(b) the funds allocated and incurred, so far, on each of the proposed institutions;

(c) whether Government have received proposals from various State Governments for establishing one such institution in their states; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), it is proposed to set up one AIIMS-like institution each in the States of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttaranchal. These states were chosen as they were under served in terms of medical infrastructure, high incidence of mortality and morbidity, inadequate facilities for super-speciality services etc. This Ministry has been receiving requests from various other States for setting up of AIIMS like Institutions. Under the PMSSY Scheme, it is therefore envisaged to strengthen eleven existing medical college institutions, to the level of AIIMS, in ten different States, where a new AIIMS is not being set up. Pending the necessary clearances, start up activities relating to PMSSY Scheme including construction of boundary wall have been started for which Rs. 12 crores (approx.) have been spent so far.

Abuse of analgesic capsules in North Eastern States

3465. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UNAIDS Chief has expressed concern over abuse of analgesic capsule, Spasmoproxyvon in the North Eastern States which causes capillaries and veins blockage, which ultimately lead to amputation; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to reduce its misuse and make it less widely available in the North East?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Executive Director

of UNAIDS has expressed his concern about the misuse of "Spasmoproxyvon" in North Eastern States.The product is supposed to be swallowed as a capsule but the misuse occurs when persons empty the contents of the capsule, dilute it and inject the product.

(b) The issue of alleged misuse of Proxyvon or similar drug formulations has been taken up with all the State Drug Controllers of North-East States in order to insure strict enforcement under the provision of drugs and Cosmetic Rules, as the drug is under schedule "H" (Prescription Drug) of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act and Rules framed thereunder.

Killer germ 'Leptospirosis'

3466. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether following the deluge in monsoon this year in Mumbai and other parts of the Maharashtra, the State, especially Mumbai, faced an epidemic of leptospirosis;

(b) if so, the number of reported leptospirosis cases in and around Mumbai during August and September this year;

(c) the Central aid, if any, sought and given to prevent the epidemic from spreading and to control the situation;

(d) whether the said epidemic also spread in other parts of country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per the information available from the State Government, 1826 leptospirosis cases were reported in and around Mumbai upto the end of September this year.

(c) A central team consisting of Microbiologists and Public Health specialists assisted the State Health authorities in investigation, prevention and control of outbreak of various communicable diseases, including leptospirosis. A control room was established in Mumbai to monitor and assess the situation. Laboratory support and diagnostic facilities, including test kits for leptospirosis were provided to the State Government.